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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/501,294	11/16/2004	Bernhard Jakoby	10191/3822	7835
26646	7590	03/29/2005	EXAMINER	
KENYON & KENYON ONE BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10004			WILSON, KATINA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2856	

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/501,294	JAKOBY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Katina M. Wilson	2856	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 November 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 9-21 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 9-11,15,16 and 18-20 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 12-14,17 and 21 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 16 November 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 16 November 2004.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

2. Claim 9-11, 15-16, 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Freud (4429343).

Freud teaches a capacitance sensing type comprising 1st (set of fingers 12) and 2nd (set of fingers 14) base components with a plurality of projecting finger shaped electrodes that are laterally offset from one another, and wherein the projection electrodes of the 1st component are positioned in opposing orientation to the projecting electrodes of the 2nd such that the projecting electrodes of the 1st and 2nd components at least partially overlap (view figures), and one fixing element (substrate 10) for fixing the 1st and 2nd components in position with respect to one another, wherein the fixing element (substrate) is positioned outside of an area where the projecting electrodes of the 1st and 2nd components overlap (just as much as the applicant's).

The claims are limited to a capacitive sensor therefore; the preamble of claim 9 is not afforded any patentable weight.

"If the body of a claim fully and intrinsically sets forth all of the limitations of the claimed invention, and the preamble merely states, for example, the purpose or intended use of the invention, rather than any distinct definition of any of the claimed invention's limitations, then the preamble is not considered a limitation and is of no

significance to claim construction. Pitney Bowes, Inc. v. Hewlett-Packard Co., 182 F.3d 1298, 1305, 51 USPQ2d 1161, 1165 (Fed. Cir. 1999)." See MPEP 2111.02.

As to claim 10, Freud teaches the capacitance sensing type have two sets of inter digitated fingers (abstract).

As to claim 11, Freud teaches/shows the 1st and 2nd components are in a common plane.

As to claims 15-16, Freud teaches/shows the fixing element (substrate) is framing the two sets of fingers.

As to claim 18, Freud shows a one-piece substrate (pressed screen).

As to claims 19-20, Freud teaches two sets of fingers of thin film platinum are covered by a coating of water absorbing material (abstract).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 12-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Closing

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Katina M. Wilson whose telephone number is 571-272-2209. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 6:15am-4:00pm, off on Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hezron E. Williams can be reached on 571-272-2209. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2856

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KW



Herzon Williams
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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